

THE WATCH

Saving Our Sites Preserving Our Past

NOVEMBER 2012

Program Manager's Pen

A Final Farewell

Page 2

Regional News

News From Ajo, AZ Strip
East, Central Salt River,
Flagstaff, Lake Havasu,
Tucson

Page 3

Spring Conference

Page 6

LETTER FROM SHPO

Arizona's Public Archaeological Sites

For the Arizona Centennial the Governor's Archaeological Advisory Commission has created a list of 100 archaeological and historic places that can be visited by the public. The principal commissioner responsible for the completion of this list was Donna Ruiz Costello. This list is now on the State Parks/SHPO website. We thank Donna for all her hard work on this project. Below are some of the key archaeological sites in Arizona just as a reminder in case you haven't visited them in a while. Continued on page 5.

Walnut Canyon:
one of the 100
centennial sites
on the GAAC list.
Go appreciate
Arizona's sites
today!



Site Steward
Calendars are being
delivered. Please
excuse the errors.
We know they are
there and are
attempting to get
some refund. In the
meanwhile, please
enjoy our first
attempt at a
calendar with your
important site
steward dates
already listed in
them. A special
thanks to everyone
who donated
pictures. We had
an incredible
response. It was
very hard to choose
among all of them.
Please check with
your RC if you have
not received one.

Photo taken for the Site Stewards' Culture Keepers Centennial Award.

One of my proudest moments as coordinator was accepting this prestigious award on behalf of all the stewards.



PROGRAM MANAGER'S PEN: A Final Farewell

Over four years ago, I was extremely fortunate to be chosen as the Program Manager for the Arizona Site Stewards by Christie Statler, then Asst. Director of Arizona State Parks, Carol Griffith, then Deputy SHPO, Ann Howard, current Deputy SHPO, and Nicole Armstrong-Best, Volunteer Coordinator for Arizona State Parks. Half of that committee is gone now but it was the start of what has been one of the most challenging and rewarding jobs I have ever had. I consider myself lucky to have been chosen by them and to count them not only as colleagues but friends. This is true of all the Arizona State Parks staff who have been incredibly supportive of this program over the years.

Since that time, the program has had its ups and downs but I believe the overall trend has been and will continue to be positive. We have a modern up-dated website and reporting system which, despite the many times I've sworn at it or attempted to commit computercide, is a vast improvement over our previous system. I would especially like to thank Godat Design, the Tucson Region, and Nicole for all their hard work in making that vision a reality for the entire state.

We have also seen a 23% increase in the number of stewards and land managers (910 altogether), three new regions, and 1634 actively monitored sites up 4% in the last four years. This has been made possible not by my work but by the incredible dedication and organizational skills of the regional coordinators and the financial and professional support of the land managers. However, the real backbone of our organization has been each individual steward. I'll miss all of you and please keep in touch. —Kristen McLean

Regional News

ARIZONA STRIP EAST

Working with the North Kaibab National Forest Archaeologists, we have brought 35 additional sites into the Site Steward Program. This brings the total NKNF sites in the program to 96. The new sites range from historic cabins to exciting rock art sites and habitation structures.

We still struggle with having sufficient coverage of these sites, as we have a small population of potential stewards to draw from and are competing with the GSENM in Utah for volunteers. Additionally, the great distances required for travel to many of these sites makes it impractical to recruit from the largest population center in our area, St. George, Utah. Still, those of us actively involved continue to be excited about visiting and preserving this important cultural heritage of the Arizona Strip.

Brad Heap—RC Arizona Strip East Region

CENTRAL/SALT RIVER

We brought in 10 new stewards to Central/Salt River this summer and autumn. We are looking for a few people to be assistant RCs for these two regions and for Cave Creek as well. Call Kristen at (602) 334-1007 if you are interested in planning events and communicating with your fellow stewards. We had 35 people attend the crime scene management class of October 27th at the new Skyline Regional Park. Many thanks to Garry Cantley, BIA, Brad Geeck, formerly of State Lands and Robert Vaikus for all their hard work in pulling this program together. Also thanks go out to Robert Weiner and the Town of Buckeye for allowing us to use their land for the training.

Spring will be very busy for us since we are hosting the annual conference at the Apache Gold Casino, Boyce Thompson Arboretum, and Lost Dutchmen State Park. The theme is Native American Medicinal Plants: Then and Now.

Central has completed their UTM's for all their sites and it is posted in the new model that will go on-line as the other regions get their coordinates completed and placed on the website.

Kristen McLean and Greg Davies—RCs Central/Salt River Regions

Regional News, cont.

FLAGSTAFF REGION

We continue to be a small but dedicated group of Site Stewards that have been supporting the Flagstaff Ranger District of the Coconino National Forest. Joe and Nancy Jordan have a particular interest in historic sites, particularly cabins from the time when the Flagstaff region was first settled. They have agreed to monitor historical cabins in addition to the ones they have been monitoring to date. We've agreed to help the CNF to relocate sites that were originally recorded in the time before hand held GPS devices were available. Christine Stephenson has led a project where the group has relocated a set of sites that were once recorded in the 1970s by para-archaeologists in a region east of Flagstaff and another group of sites north east of Flagstaff. These were challenging assignments as the original records were often vague and the site coordinates were off by significant distances. However, both site relocation projects were successfully completed. In 1981, as part of a graduate thesis, 129 sites were recorded north of Flagstaff. That thesis documented the presence of a Cohonina community that existed around the time that Sunset Crater erupted. Bern Carey acquired a copy of that MA Thesis and investigated whether the site records and UTM's were correct. Field checking some of those sites showed that the sites need to be relocated and the site records updated. This will be an ongoing project for the Flagstaff Region. Bern Carey has also been leading a project for the CNF to discover major prehistoric sites in the Deadman's Wash area south of the Wupatki National Monument. With the help of Christine Stephenson, Rich Rogers and Mike Bencic, hundreds of new sites are being found on CNF lands and are being systematically recorded under the supervision of Jeremy Haines, Flagstaff Ranger District archaeologist. Most recently the Site Steward Program has been approached by the City of Flagstaff to be responsible for monitoring 22 sites in Picture Canyon, a new prehistoric interpretative region on lands being acquired by the city of Flagstaff from the State of Arizona.

Bern Carey, RC Flagstaff Region

LAKE HAVASU REGION

One of our newest Site Stewards, Tom Crager, has become involved with both the Lake Havasu and Kingman regions. In fact Tom has documented a couple new sites for Kingman. Tom has sent this report:

One of our prehistoric sites is the Beale road / Mohave Trail east of Bullhead City. It consists of several boulders containing ancestral Paiute petroglyphs scattered along this trail. We are in the process of extending the rock art sites east and west along this important prehistoric and historic immigration route. Collaborating with Stan Krok of the Kingman Site Steward district, we are researching and mapping additional sites in the area, to be completed this winter hopefully.

Jenny Anderson, RC Lake Havasu Region

Regional News, cont.

TUCSON REGION

Region 6 just finished up this year's new site steward training. We have 28 very enthusiastic new stewards who are very much looking forward to venturing out and discovering the vast expanse of history that lays within our borders. The training team would like to thank Todd Pitezal, ASM archaeologist, Bill Gillespie and Dave Mehalic, Forest Service archaeologists, for all their help with the classroom and field classes. Region 6 would also like to thank BLM and the Forest Service for the donation of 20 **Borderlands Field Work Safety Training Guides** to the Site Steward Class with a very special thanks to Alan Belauskas (FS). Most of all, the steering committee would like to extend its thanks to all of its stewards for their dedication and hard work in helping to protect the vast number of archaeological and historical sites within the Tucson region boundaries. We are seeing a slight increase in vandalism and it is great to know that our sites are being monitored frequently and hopefully we can prevent more damage from occurring in the future. We are all looking forward to a great year.

Tucson would like to give a humongous thank you to Kristen McLean for all her dedication to the site steward program. We will greatly miss you and all the support you have given us in these last few years. May your new prospects bring you much joy.

Robin Rutherford—Tucson Region

SHPO LETTER CONT.

Besh Be Gowah Archeological Park in Globe
 White House at Canyon de Chelly National Monument near Chinle
 Casa Grande Ruins National Monument in Coolidge
 Casa Malpais National Historic Landmark in Springerville
 Elden Ruins near Flagstaff
 Homolovi Ruins State Park in Winslow
 Kinishba Ruins National Historic Landmark near White River
 Montezuma Castle National Monument near Camp Verde
 Keet Seel at Navajo National Monument north of Tuba City
 Pueblo Grande Ruins National Historic Landmark in Phoenix
 Upper and Lower Ruin at Tonto National Monument north of Globe
 Tuzigoot National Monument near Cottonwood
 Walnut Canyon National Monument near Flagstaff
 Wupatki National Monument

Keep these sites in mind when visitors come to see you in Arizona and keep up the good work!

Jim Garrison--SHPO

AJO REGION

The Ajo site stewards are beginning to trickle back into town. Since a majority of the stewards are “snow birds” most of the activities are seasonal. There are a few hardcore folks, though, that tough out the summers and take on the tasks that require year-around vigilance.

Much of the 2012-2013 seasons’ focus will be border-related. The Organ Pipe and Cabeza Prieta areas have been particularly hard hit by illegal off-road driving both by smugglers and Border Patrol agents trying to catch them. The results are an incredible 8000+ miles of new two-tracks and roads through wilderness. Less than 10% of these land holdings have been surveyed for archaeological sites and none of the most heavily impacted areas were examined at all. Over the last four years the Ajo Site Stewards have helped conduct surveys in those areas and, yes, numerous sites have been discovered and not just small camp sites. Huge basecamps, some of which have extensive evidence of shell jewelry production, have been located and recorded. Many of these sites have been cut by new two-tracks and roads, and some of them quite severely.

The Ajo Site Stewards have also been asked to intensify site monitoring in some areas on the Barry M. Goldwater Range. Detailed analysis of some of these sites under the supervision of range archaeologist Adrienne Rankin will likely occur, as well.

The Martynecs—Ajo Region



Hey Everyone! Just because I'm gone don't forget the conference. Apache Gold has a great deal going for us and you can begin to make your reservations there in January. Hope to see you there. Kristen

I will be working on finalizing the program and confirming conference reservations in early January. I will be e-mailing updated information to your RC's as I get things scheduled. Please bear with me as I try to get this done and get a person hired to be your Coordinator at the same time. Also, nomination forms for awards will be out in January as well. Please consider nominating your fellow stewards, or RC, or Land Manager for an award! Nicole

Apache Gold

General Information:

800-APACHE-8 (800-272-2438)

Located 5 miles East of Globe on Highway 70



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James Garrison, State Historic Preservation Officer
Ann Howard, Asst. SHPO/Archaeologist

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State Parks staff Nicole Armstrong Best, Site Steward Program Manager and members of the State Parks Board can be contacted through: Arizona State Parks, 1300 W. Washington, Phoenix, AZ 85007; Tel & TTY ; (602) 542-7389 & (602) 542-4180; Internet; www.azstateparks.com.

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Watch Newsletter

The Arizona Watch is published four times per year: Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall by the Arizona State Parks,/State Historic Preservation Office. Please submit articles via email to kmclean@azstateparks.gov or mail to 1300 W. Washington, Phoenix, and AZ. 85007.

PARTNERS' CIRCLE



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Arizona State Parks Foundation

Malcolm McGregor

Robert McLean

Shelly Rasmussen

JoAnn Weldon

**and all our Land Managers
who donated money this previous year**